

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:WLCUTLER:OSM

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S/R/ORM:WIESNER

S/S-O: L. MATTESON

AF/S:MR. O'NEILL

----- 105554

P R 120105Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

S E C R E T STATE 083964

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, AU

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AID TO ANGOLAN REFUGEES

REF: KINSHASA 2329

1. DEPT HAS GIVEN MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO YOUR PROPOSAL (REFTEL) FOR DOUBLED-BARREL EFFORT TO HELP RESETTLE ANGOLAN REFUGEES. DEPT HAS DECIDED THAT US SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO A MULTILATERAL, LONG-RANGE REFUGEE RELIEF/ RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM IN ANGOLA, IF UNHCR UNDERTAKES SUCH PROGRAM AND REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION IS RECEIVED. IN ADDITION TO OBVIOUS HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS, US PARTICIPATION IN THIS TYPE OF UNDERTAKING SHOULD SERVE TO PROVIDE SOME HELP, HOWEVER LONG RANGE, TO FNLA "MODERATES" AND IN WAY WHICH WOULD PROBABLY BE ACCEPTABLE TO OTHER ANGOLAN FACTIONS AS WELL AS PORTUGUESE.

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UNHCR UMBRELLA WOULD ALSO LIMIT RISK OF US BEING

POLITICALLY OVER-EXPOSED IN HIGHLY FLUID SITUATION.

2. AFTER EXTENSIVE REVIEW DEPT HAS ALSO CONCLUDED THAT CRASH, UNILATERAL US EFFORT TO REPATRIATE ANGOLAN REFUGEES FROM ZAIRE AND OTHER NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WOULD BE NEITHER POLITICALLY ADVISABLE NOR LOGISTICALLY FEASIBLE. WHILE WE APPRECIATE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE

OF HAVING AS MANY FNLA-ORIENTED REFUGEES AS POSSIBLE BACK IN ANGOLA PRIOR TO ELECTIONS, PROGRAM OF MAGNITUDE PROPOSED WOULD INEVITABLY BE VIEWED AS MASSIVE US EFFORT TO SUPPORT FNLA IN POLITICAL STRUGGLE AGAINST OTHER ANGOLAN MOVEMENTS WITH POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF ENCOURAGING ROBERTO TO RESIST COOPERATION WITH THOSE MOVEMENTS, INCREASING CHANCES OF FORCEFUL REACTION BY MPLA, AND TRIGGERING NEGATIVE REACTION FROM UNITA. FROM PRACTICAL STANDPOINT, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT AND EXPENSIVE TO MOUNT MEANINGFUL OPERATION IN SHORT TIME AVAILABLE. ALSO LIKELY THAT SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL INPUTS FROM US WOULD BE REQUIRED TO ASSURE ADEQUATE CARE OF LARGE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES ONCE THEY ARE BACK IN ANGOLA.

3. YOUR INITIATIVE IN PUTTING FORTH PROPOSALS REFTEL MUCH APPRECIATED. DEPT CONVINCED THAT PARTICIPATION IN UNHCR EFFORT CONSTITUTES MOST ADVISABLE AND VIABLE COURSE OF ACTION FOR US IN LIGHT OF MANY UNCERTAINTIES AND COMPLICATIONS WHICH CONTINUE TO DOMINATE ANGOLAN SCENE. WHILE WE BELIEVE UNHCR SHOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE THE LEAD IN DEVELOPING PLANS FOR SUCH PROGRAM, WE WILL BE PREPARED TO RESPOND POSITIVELY ONCE UNHCR REACHES POINT OF ELICITING CONTRIBUTIONS. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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